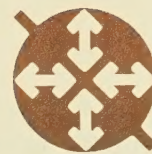




BULLETIN



OCTOBER 1978

VOLUME IV NUMBER I

Blissymbolics
Communication
Institute

✦ gathering
✦ dissemination
⊗ blissymbolics
x much, many

862 Eglinton Avenue E.
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M4G 2L1
(416) 425-7835

RESOURCE CENTRES

RESOURCE CENTRES AND AFFILIATES



*Blissymbolic Resource Centre

In 1975 Charles Bliss granted to the Blissymbolics Communication Institute a world-wide, perpetual copyright to his symbols. We, in turn, have sub-licensed Resource Centres in North America and abroad to act as approved Blissymbolics training and information centres.

Resource Centres provide strong support for the objectives of the B.C.I.: development and maintenance of a standard form of the Blissymbol system; development of professional training; and dissemination of information about Blissymbols around the world.

Each Resource Centre is unique in its professional setting, administrative structure and geographic location. Each represents a unique community of symbol users.

Resource Centres look to the B.C.I. for symbol expertise. We look to them for expertise in the application of symbols. The Blissymbol system

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES FOR B.C.I.

is nourished as it evolves, by an exchange of information between B.C.I. and instructors and users.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF RESOURCE CENTRES AND AFFILIATES

The second annual advisory meeting of Resource Centres and Affiliates took place in Toronto in July. Product and programme development, as well as administrative matters, were discussed.

Eight Resource Centre Directors attended the three day meeting with B.C.I. board members and staff. Ena Davies came from Wales. Eugene McDonald, Deberah Harris and Mel Cohen attended from the United States. Canadian centres were represented by Margaret McCuaig, Dale Sutherland, Keila Waksvik, and Maurice Izzard.

Two members of the B.C.I. Board of Directors, Mr. John Macdonald and Mr. Fred Mallett, attended the meetings. Mr. Joseph Lemire, Secretary of the Board, was present to advise on legal matters. Their support and perspective were especially valuable during the meetings.

*
Centre for exchange of knowledge about Blissymbols.

Annual Resource Centre and Affiliate reports were presented at the meeting in July. Reports were also received from those unable to attend. Space permits us to print only excerpts of these reports, which follow for your information:

CANADA

Alberta - Calgary

Dale Sutherland, Resource Centre Director (retired)

Based at the Calgary Children's Hospital, Resource Centre status was acquired in May, 1977. In October, the first Elementary Workshop was held. Activity has centered around in-service programmes, workshops and special consultation and programme initiation. Community awareness and interest have been generated by service club presentations, plus a small repertoire of games and toys for teaching Blissymbolics.

The primary focus has been establishment of the integrity and validity of Blissymbolics.

The sub-licence of the Calgary Centre was terminated May 31, 1978, following the resignation of its director, Dale, who was leaving the province.

British Columbia - Vancouver

Marg McCuaig, Resource Centre Co-ordinator

In April of 1977 the Resource Centre was organized with a co-ordinating committee which has now been replaced by a five-person executive. Two Elementary Workshops were held last year and much time was spent responding to inquiries about Blissymbolics.

In an effort to share local news and to disseminate information provincially, a Newsletter is produced every three months. Provincial membership with voting privileges was offered, and the membership now stands at 150.

The physical location of the Centre is Sunny Hill Hospital for Children. It is due to the generosity of this institution and the encouragement of its staff and board members that the Centre was established. It has not only provided space, telephone and financial support to assist with the initial costs, but a typist as well.

Ontario - Ottawa

Anne Warrick, Resource Centre Director (retired)

During the 1977-78 year community awareness was maintained through a series of orientation presentations to various groups. These included service clubs, recreational settings, residential and day camps, as well as the staff and volunteers in the Ottawa Crippled Children's Treatment Centre. An Elementary Workshop was presented August of 1977, with 28 participants.

In a recent letter, Anne expressed her regret that, due to a greatly increased workload, she could no longer carry the responsibilities of a Resource Centre. She will, however, maintain contact on a more informal level. She further expressed what a pleasure it was to be associated with those concerned in the development of Blissymbolics. Anne's book, Blissymbols for Preschool Children, was published this year.

'Christmas' is made up of the following symbols:



DAY



BIRTH



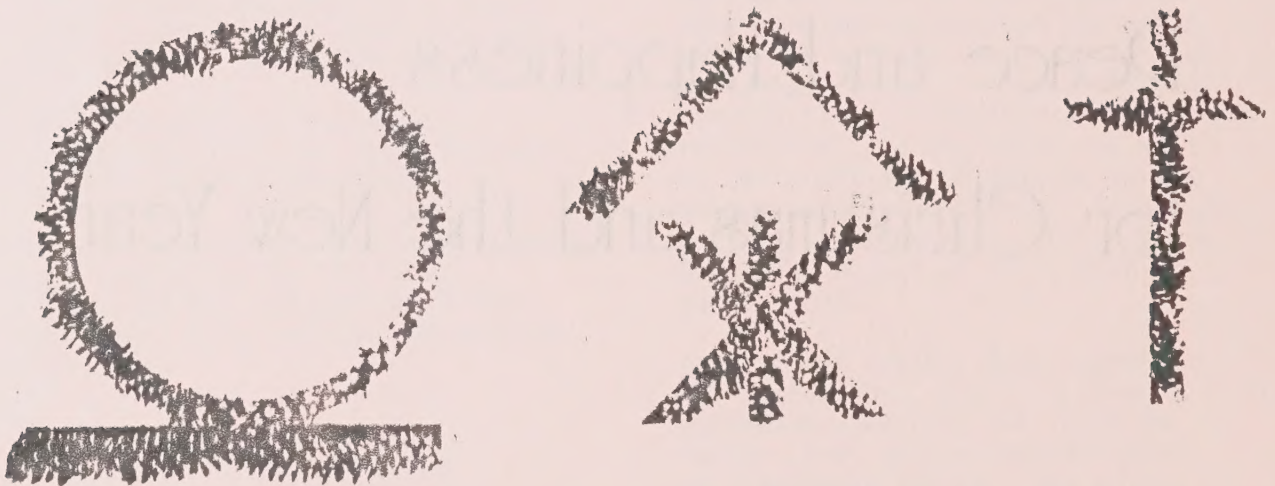
CROSS (representing "man of the cross," Christ)

Blissymbolics is a visual graphic form of Communication used as an augmentative to Speech.

Peace and Happiness

for Christmas and the New Year

Proceeds from this card will be forwarded to the Blissymbolics Communication Institute.



CHRISTMAS CARD USING BLISSYMBOLS

Why not send your Christmas messages using Blissymbols? This very attractive card, done in an arrangement of pine cones, is now available from the Blissymbolics Communication Institute, at a cost of \$3.00 per dozen. ORDER NOW! (See order form attached)

Ontario - Toronto

Maurice Izzard, Principal
Ontario Crippled Children's Centre
School

In Toronto, Resource Centre responsibilities are shared between the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre and the B.C.I. Instructional workshops have been developed and co-ordinated by the B.C.I. and hosted by the O.C.C.C. Mr. Maurice Izzard was Principal of the O.C.C.C. school when the Blissymbol research project was initiated for a small group of non-speaking cerebral palsied children in 1971.

As the use of Blissymbols has continued to grow rapidly around the world, the support and encouragement of Mr. Izzard, the teachers of the school, and the staff and administration of the O.C.C.C. have been continuous. The children at O.C.C.C. have demonstrated their symbol skills to countless visitors.

Quebec - Montreal

Keila Waksvik, Resource Centre
Director

The MacKay Centre for Deaf and Crippled Children has for the past two years been the setting for the Montreal's Blissymbolics Resource Centre. They have been very active in co-ordinating translation of B.C.I.'s provisional dictionary, the syntax supplement and various workshop materials for the use of the French community. The Elementary Workshop held in March, 1978 was attended by 43 participants from Quebec, France and Switzerland. To date, five workshops have been held, two in English and three in French. Public awareness has been maintained through mail, loan materials, interviews and tours of the Centre.

In the area of equipment the MacKay Centre, in close conjunction with the University of Montreal's School of Industrial Design, has been working on adapted equipment to facilitate symbol communication for handicapped children and youth. Two projects were initiated last year:

- the optical pointer - a head-mounted light-beam which allows direct selection of characters on a communication board
- Roll-O-Bliss - a cylindrical display attached to a walker for the ambulatory non-verbal child.

The increased interest in Blissymbolics, and Keila's unexpected role as sole therapist in the occupational therapy department, have made the task of being director rather formidable. For these reasons the Resource Centre will move to the Cerebral Palsy Association of Quebec, with Ms. Marie-Jose Belanger as the new director.

U.S.A.

California - Loma Linda

Dr. Mel Cohen, Resource Centre Director

The Loma Linda University Medical Center officially began operation as a Resource Centre on July 1, 1978, and is located in the Department of Speech and Language Development, Communication Services. By July 17, the Resource Centre was already sponsoring its first major activity - an Elementary Workshop. Mel Cohen will be presenting four in-service lectures between now and the end of the year in preparation for a second Elementary Workshop in February, 1979.

The main interest at Loma Linda is dissemination of information, providing materials and workshops in a location that is convenient to the

western United States, and maintaining close touch with development of the system initiated by B.C.I.

The University has been a major source of encouragement and financial assistance. The staff of the Department of Speech and Language Development are very enthusiastic about the Resource Centre.

Pennsylvania - Philadelphia

Dr. Eugene McDonald, Director
Approved Training Center

The Home of the Merciful Saviour for Crippled Children is a private, non-profit, non-sectarian, residential rehabilitation center for educable neurodevelopmentally handicapped children between 3 and 10 years of age. In November of 1978, it also became the first Resource Centre in the U.S.A. The title, 'Approved Blissymbolics Training Center' was designated to the school for several reasons. In particular, it was felt that with limited staff and facilities at this time, focus would be given to developing instructional materials and procedures, and conducting training programmes.

A small group of cerebral palsied children was selected for Blissymbol training and a special session for their parents, entitled 'Introduction to Blissymbols' was offered. Two Elementary courses, using the combined correspondence study-workshop programmes, have already been conducted with two more scheduled and advertised for the fall of 1978 and the spring of 1979.

Wisconsin - Madison

Dr. Deberah Harris, Director
Resource Center

The Northcentral Blissymbolics Resource Center developed from a graduate project in 1974-75, with five children using the symbol programme. The programme has now grown to include 45-50 children in a residential institution, Central Center.

The University of Wisconsin Extension has supported the Resource Centre's administration, provided office space, a budget that includes: staff for workshops; materials and their development; travel and publicity.

The Wisconsin Center's main interests are training, material dissemination and research into the application of symbols with the retarded.

INTERNATIONAL

Sweden - Linkoping

Dr. Annagreta Malmstrom-Groth
Director, Resource Centre

Representatives from Sweden were unable to attend the meeting this year but their annual report arrived in time to be shared at the meeting. It follows:

Translation, adaptation and drawing of symbols to make a Swedish version of displays play an essential role in the activities of the Swedish Resource Centre. Much energy has been devoted to researching the already existing use of symbols in Sweden and exploring avenues by which Blissymbolics communication programmes can be made more available.

In an effort to achieve more financial support for the organization, a meeting with authorities was held at Ekshaga, Linköping in January 1978. In June, another meeting of the same nature was held, to which parents were invited. The two meetings resulted in a 'Programme Paper' which will outline the aims of the Centre and general information on the symbol system. This will be presented in a large meeting to take place in November, to which the press will be invited.

Two Elementary Workshops have also been planned, one in late September in Göteborg, and the other in early October in Stockholm.

Dr. Malmström-Groth came to Canada to attend the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy conference in Toronto in September. This provided an opportunity to discuss Resource Centre activities.

United Kingdom

Ena Davies, U.K. National Advisor

The United Kingdom Resource Centre was established on April 1, 1977 with a two year grant from the National Fund for Research into Crippling Diseases. Since then, interest in Blissymbolics has been constant and the Centre has continued to grow.

Ena Davies, Trish Bailey and Jill Hammond completed B.C.I. Internship and Presenter training in the spring of 1977.

One of the main purposes of the Resource Centre has been to provide instructional training. Four Elementary Workshops were held in the first year and 157 instructors

were trained. As an aid in disseminating information about Blissymbolics a booklet, 'Happy Talking' was prepared.

The U.K. provides a focus for the exchange of ideas through a Newsletter which is published twice a year.

Demand for courses has exceeded the resources available to organize and run them. Effort is now being made to find additional resources and personnel.

AFFILIATES

Our Affiliates in Australia and New Zealand were unable to attend the Toronto Advisory Meeting this July, but we hope they will join us next year. Their reports follow:

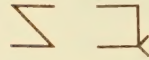
Australia - Canberra

Joan Hurren, Affiliate

Joan Hurren completed her Internship and Presenter Training in Toronto in the spring of 1977 on a Churchill Fellowship. Since her return to Australia she has been extremely busy responding to inquiries about Blissymbols. She has written articles for professional journals, including a Churchill Fellowship Report. A Blissymbolics display is exhibited at Churchill House in Canberra (on view 24 hours a day).

Joan has delivered a number of presentations to students, teachers and therapists, and provided individual consultation where possible. Fortunately, Australia now has three additional B.C.I. trained Blissymbol instructors. There is no available funding to date to establish a Resource Centre.

BLISSYMBOL CORNER



BLISSYMBOL STAMPS

One thousand Blissymbol Stamps are now available. Many of the symbols are making their first appearance in the B.C.I. vocabulary. Persons accustomed to earlier vocabularies will also find that changes have been made in some symbols or in the accompanying wording. Purchasers of the stamps will find very useful an informal pamphlet containing brief derivations for each new or revised Blissymbol, as well as information regarding the organization of the vocabulary on the stamp sheets. (See Products for description and price.)

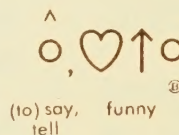
NEW USAGES

Use of the comma in combined symbols

Insertion of a comma between meaning parts of a combined symbol can help to clarify the composition and aid in the interpretation of the new symbol expression. Use of the comma for this purpose is optional.

This use of the comma is found in the stamp vocabulary in

(to) joke



Description (evaluation) indicators

description
(evaluation)
indicator
V

The familiar is one of a series of three evaluation indicators presented in Semantography. B.C.I. has recently moved to make use of the other two:

description
(evaluation)
before fact
V

description
(evaluation)
after fact
V

An evaluation made before an action, as in the sentence, "Snow is possible today," is indicated by a dot before the description (evaluation) indicator

possible

dead

V



V



in . It is evident, however, in , that the state described occurs after life ceases. In this case, therefore, the dot comes after the description (evaluation) indicator.

The following Blissymbol Stamps incorporate this feature of the system:

description (evaluation)
before the fact

possible

· v
⊕?

description (evaluation)
after the fact

broken

· v
⌋

lucky

· v
♥ +

dead

· v
⊗

ready

· v
^ » (®

excited

· v
♥ !!!

wet

· v
~

favourite

· v
X
⊙ 1. ®

ⓑ indicates a Blissymbolics Communication Institute symbol which differs from the C.K.Bliss version, either in symbol form or accompanying word.

Note that in previous B.C.I. vocabularies the meanings broken, dead, excited, lucky, and wet carried the simple description (evaluation) indicator without the related dot.

This feature of the system permits more precise expression and will be particularly helpful to more advanced users. Instructors are advised, whenever appropriate, to teach the concept and the use of the 'before the fact' and 'after the fact' indicators in all symbol communication. However, in cases where, in the instructor's judgment, a user would experience serious difficulty with the concept and with the placement of the dot relative to the indicator, the instructor may use his/her own discretion in deciding how to teach the use of the symbol.

Are You Publishing or Filming Symbols?

Thank you to the growing number of people who are submitting symbols to B.C.I. for review before publication.

If you are preparing to publish materials on Blissymbolics, please send a copy of your manuscript - both text and symbol illustrations - to Jinny Storr, Symbol Officer. In order to check symbols for accuracy it is necessary to see the text to be certain that the symbols cited are appropriate. Allow six weeks for return of your submissions.

New Zealand - Dunedin

A.A. Reeves, Affiliate

The Matariki unit at Forbury School, where physically handicapped children are integrated with physically normal, is the first school in New Zealand to use Blissymbols. The principal of the Matariki unit, Mr. Bert Reeves, completed Internship Training in Canada earlier this year. He is the only trained instructor of Blissymbolics in New Zealand.

Since his return home he has travelled, at the request of the government, explaining and demonstrating Blissymbols at conferences and centres for the physically handicapped. His enthusiasm is contagious and has generated a good deal of interest. He hopes it will be possible for several people to receive Intern Training in Toronto next year.

AFFILIATE AGREEMENTS

Last year an Affiliate sub-licence was developed in response to requests from individuals and centres, primarily outside North America, for a formal liaison with B.C.I.

The Affiliate Agreement requires:

- . support of B.C.I. training and workshops
- . support of B.C.I. objectives
- . a staff member with B.C.I. certification
- . an annual fee of \$25.00
- . associate membership

The Affiliate benefits are:

- . mutual support and recognition between Affiliates, Resource Centres and B.C.I.
- . representation at bi-annual Advisory Committee meetings
- . 10% discount on products

Affiliate Centres may become Resource Centres if the need and the interest develop.

Two new Affiliates have been sub-licensed:

GEORGIA

Caroline Price
423 Melrose Avenue
Decatur, Georgia 40040
U.S.A.

FRANCE

Dr. Andre Sylvestre
Centre de Reeducation et de
Readaptation Fonctionnelles de
Kerpape CRF Kerpape - BP 241
56321 Lorient, France

There will be more news in the next issue about these new Affiliates!

O.C.C.C. COMMUNICATION AIDS DISPLAY

O.C.C.C. has embarked on a new Communication Programme and will set up a room to display commercially available communication aids.

They will be looking at aids not only using Blissymbols but at aids which meet the total needs of the speech impaired person.

Through the Newsletter you will be informed as to which aids will be on display at the Centre. Naturally, it will not be possible for equipment to be loaned to individuals, but evaluations can be done at the Centre.

For information, please contact:

Mrs. Margrit Beesley, O.T. Reg.
Ontario Crippled Children's Centre
350 Rumsey Road
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M4G 1R8

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT -

Shirley McNaughton,
Programme Director

The production and distribution of our new stamps and Handbook are having far-reaching effects. Now that individualized communication for symbol users is possible, it is important to update the format and content of our training programmes, products, and publications. Within our present financial capabilities this development is proceeding on a priority basis. Attention is currently being concentrated upon the Elementary Workshop content and Blissymbols To Use.

Developmental work continues on the Blisscom and on the Norpak Blissterm. We hope to be able to begin evaluations of the Blisscom in October, 1978 and the Blissterm in early 1979.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP -

Juane Hemsol,
Director

The Associate Membership applications are beginning to come in, and we thank you for your support and interest.

We would very much like symbol users and their families to join us as Associate Members -- can you help us reach them?

For those users who are already members, we would like to mention that the Newsletter welcomes you to send in letters. Please submit your articles to:

Barbara Rush
Newsletter Editor
64 Magnolia Drive
Hamilton, Ontario
L9C 5T2

T R A I N I N G

WORKSHOPS

On August 14-16 we held our first Special Interest Workshop focussing on 'Blissymbols and the Pre-Schooler.' All those who attended indicated a strong desire to learn much more about this particular application, and we hope to schedule another workshop of this nature in the near future. The enthusiasm throughout the workshop was most gratifying. Proceedings will be available as soon as possible.

Our next Special Interest Workshop focused on 'Blissymbols and the Retarded.' Loretta Biasutti, a psychologist and B.C.I. presenter for this particular workshop, was the co-ordinator.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

October 17-20 Elementary

Marg McCuaig, Co-ordinator
Blissymbols Resource Centre
Sunny Hill Hospital for Children
2755 East 21st Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V5M 2W3

1-604-434-1311 local 2

October 25-28 Elementary

Jane Green
Blissymbolics Association for
Newfoundland and Labrador
Virginia Waters School
c/o Blackhall Memorial School
300 Elizabeth Avenue
St. John's, Newfoundland

November 2-5 Elementary

Betty Howe
Florida Learning Resources System
800 South Delaney Street
Orlando, Florida 32801
305-423-9240

Beginning of November

Special Updating Workshop

Ina Kirstein
Oakland Schools
2100 Pontiac Lake Road
Pontiac, Michigan 48054
313-858-2121

November 14-17 Elementary

Sally W. Ruggia
Special Education Consultant
3014 Old Seymour Road
Wichita Falls, Texas 76309

November 29 - December 2 Elementary

Sister Gertrude Gillan
Charlottetown Adult Centre
7 Trafalgar Street
Charlottetown, P.E.I.

September 11 - December 30 Elementary

Correspondence Course Format

Dr. E.T. McDonald
The Home of the Merciful Saviour
for Crippled Children
4400 Baltimore Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Session 1 Correspondence Course

Includes a two day workshop:
December 1-2

WORKSHOP SCHEDULING 1979

We are starting to schedule out-of-town workshops for 1979. These include special interest as well as elementary workshops. Should you be interested in hosting a workshop in your area, please contact us. Early booking is essential.

INTERNSHIP

In our internship programme this fall, we are hosting three people from Holland:

Els Koerselman, Speech Therapist

Bert van Hoeyen, Principal

Marie-Louise van der Spek,
Occupational Therapist

They arrived in Toronto, September 20. Bert and Marie-Louise attended the Toronto Elementary Workshop. Els, who took her Elementary Blissymbol Training in England, has been visiting various schools with symbol programmes in Toronto. They also visited Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa, and the United States. They will be here until November 27. Immediately after, we will be having two interns from England:
Joan Seakins, Teacher

Jan Maxwell Eve, Speech Therapist

BLISSYMBOLICS PRODUCTS

See order form and description sheet enclosed for the following products:

The HANDBOOK, new Blissymbol Stamps and blank grids, and templates.

"USING BLISSYMBOL STAMPS" (44 page pamphlet)

A pamphlet is now available explaining the organization of the Blissymbol Stamps and offering suggestions as to their usage.

It is recommended reading for all instructors introducing the new Blissymbol Stamps. This contains a section giving derivations of new symbols not included in the Provisional Dictionary. Cost \$2.00

BLISSYMBOLS CHRISTMAS CARD

Why not send your Christmas messages using Blissymbols? This very attractive card, done in an arrangement of pine cones, is available from the B.C.I., cost \$3.00 per dozen. (see attached form)

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

BLISSYMBOL WORKBOOK - available soon

Gwen Mann, special education teacher, has developed eight sets of children's workbooks with approximately forty books in all. Most symbols on a standard 400 display are used in the full series. The books cover many areas of interest in a young child's life and so may be useful for development of new vocabulary.

At the end of each book is a review of the words and symbols used. This forms a mini-dictionary which is helpful for spelling when a child begins to write his own stories.

The introductory set will soon be available through B.C.I. for \$15.00. It includes six books, plus some suggestions for use.

TRANSFERS

We would like your comments on an idea that has been proposed; 1½" iron-on individual symbol transfers made from the '250' vocabulary. This vocabulary is designed for early language intervention and for the retarded population.

The transfers would enable parents and staff to create a truly individualized portable symbol display, i.e., apron, handkerchief, scarf, etc. We have provided space for your comments at the bottom of the order form.

FLASH CARDS

Flash cards are available, 2-5/8" square in size, colour coded or black and white and designed to fit a 3 x 3 square matrix on the 400 grid. There will be a vocabulary of 250 symbols available on flash cards. The vocabulary is designed for early language intervention and for the retarded population. The cards do not have an adhesive back. They can be used for drills and games or as large symbols for an introductory display.

PEWTER SYMBOL PINS

Dwyer Enterprises has produced for the B.C.I. a pewter lapel pin incorporating the symbol for "happy."

The pin is attractively boxed and a short history of the Blissymbolics Communication Institute is included.



This pin would make a lovely Christmas gift for that special volunteer, teacher, parent or symbol user.

The cost is \$7.00 and an order form is enclosed. Dwyer will also design distinctive pieces of symbol jewellery in silver and gold on an individual commission basis. For more information, please contact the B.C.I. office.

NATIONAL FILM BOARD SLIDE SERIES - available for purchase

'Say It With Symbols,' a visual teaching aid and a joint project of the National Film Board of Canada and the B.C.I., can now be ordered for purchase. The NFB will reproduce the series of 750 slides when a minimum of five orders are received. Three orders have been received to date. If you are interested in purchase, please place your order as soon as possible. The price is approximately \$500.00 (see enclosed product description sheet for details)



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